(ii) Refresher training of Heavy Motor Vehicle Drivers and use of driving simulators.

(iii) Publicity campaign on Road Safety Awareness through audio-visual-print media.

(iv) National Award has been instituted for voluntary organizations/ individuals for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(v) All India Essay Competition on road safety are organizaed for school children for creating awareness among the school children.

(vi) Observance of Road Safety Week in the first week of every year across the country.

(vii) Annual fitness certificate of commercial vehicles is necessary as per provision of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(viii) Introduction of Smart Card, based driving licenses.

(ix) Transport Minister's Trophy for State Transport Undertakings having lowest accident record, etc.

(x) Provision of cranes and ambulances under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme to States/NGOs, etc.

(xi) Road Patrolling on a part of National Highways-8 has been taken up as an experimental measure.

Labour Reforms

*343. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce labour reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the details; and

(c) the reasons for delay in introducing labour reforms in the wake of introduction of structural reforms since 1991 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness and employment generation and to update the provisions, especially since the introduction of economic reforms beginning 1991, need has been felt from time

to time to make amendments in certain labour legislations and steps initiated accordingly. A Group of Ministers on Labour Reforms has been constituted.

The Government has also set up the Second National Commission on Labour with a view to suggest rationalization of existing laws relating to labour in the organised sector and to suggest an umbrella legislation for ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganized sector. The Commission would, *inter-alia*, take into account the emerging economic environment involving rapid technological changes, globalisation of economy, liberalization of trade and industry, emphasis on international competitiveness and also the need for bringing the existing laws in tune with the future labour market needs and demands. The report of the Commission is expected by 15-02-2002.

Commemorative Postage Stamp

*344. SHRI INDRAMONI BORA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation to release a postage stamp commemorating centenary celebration of Padmashree Chandra prova Saikiani-a great social workers and freedom fighter from Assam; and

(b) if so, by when Government would consider the proposal and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Commemorative postage stamp on Padmashree Chandra Prova Saikiani is approved for issue in the year 2002.

Poor Telephone Services

†*345. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inefficiency of 197 and other numbers rendering public service and the difficulties being faced by the consumers as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to improve these services;

(c) whether Government are also aware of criminal indifference in the telephone complaints redressal service; and

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.